

**From:** "Murer, Marguerite A."  
**To:** "Kavanaugh, Brett M."  
**Subject:** FW: Remarks on 18 December in the Oval Office  
**Received(Date):** Mon, 19 Dec 2005 12:58:06 -0500

FYI on incoming e-mail traffic below, many positive e-mails. Also, Comment Line is very positive on remarks last night and very positive on Press Conference today.

---

**From:** Maxwell, Kyle D.  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2005 12:13 PM  
**To:** Murer, Marguerite A.  
**Cc:** Kraft, Nathaniel  
**Subject:** Remarks on 18 December in the Oval Office

Regarding the President's remarks from the Oval Office on Sunday evening...

Approximately 70% of the incoming e-mails were positive. The remaining 30% were negative. Below are samples.

---

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mahoney, Mildred [P6/b(6)]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 19, 2005 10:10 AM  
**To:** president@whitehouse.gov  
**Subject:** 12 18 05 speech

Dear Sir

Thank you for addressing a few important concerns of mine in your speech Sunday December 18, 2005.

I listened to your explanation, clarifying the situation in Iraq, and would like you to know that I agree. I have watched two elections take place, each one better than the last. I think that Democracy is taking hold in that nation, giving her people a better future. With Gods' help, it will flourish and her people will have a better life. I do think that we need to continue to support this fledging nation. However, please do your utmost to protect our soldiers.

Additionally, thank you for stepping up and accepting responsibility, admitting that mistakes were made, and acknowledging that you are responsible for the errors. Our Nation needs to regain its Integrity. That speech was a good step.

Perhaps those who gather the information you rely on, could find a way to insure that they are more accurate. Perhaps they can recheck and insure that the facts are accurate, and (more importantly) that the meaning of the facts are represented accurately, and not spun to support what someone wants them to show.

I am also concerned about our own Nations' actions since 911. I understand the need of the government

to do everything to protect her citizens, I lost relatives in the twin towers. I am an American who understands what our freedom means. My family came over before the Civil War, in fact one of my relatives fought for the Union in the Civil War. So, even though I would not speak against you for disregarding our hard gained freedoms in gathering information to protect us, I will remind you that the reason our Great Nation is great, is that we honor and respect these freedoms.

I will continue to support you and your decisions, as long as I see this.

Thank you

Mildred Mahoney

P6/b(6)

---

-----Original Message-----

From: John S. R. Lawrence [P6/b(6)]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2005 8:30 AM

To: Public Comments

Subject: Last night's speech.

President Bush,

I just wanted to add my voice to what I am sure, is a growing chorus of praise for the speech last night. It was the first time that you have been able to get the message across in a clear, compassionate and personal way. If you really want to win [ie. have the Iraqis get freedom & unleash freedom in the Middle East] and I have no doubt you do, you must be more effective explaining what is at stake. This speech was a great start. Keep up the good work.

John S. R. Lawrence

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Gale Thomas [P6/b(6)]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2005 1:16 AM

To: Public Comments

Subject: Speech Dec 18, 2005

Dear Mr. President

I have never written to any elected representative before today but I can no longer stand idly by and not comment on how proud I am of you and the job that you are doing. I feel that your decision recently to debate the Iraq position and defending your right to NSA surveillance will only rally the American people behind you even further. You have such a difficult job and you work and the work of all in your administration is greatly appreciated by this American. Please don't stop defending your position and showing the to us that the Democrats are the party of NO! And would you please give Scott McClellan a gold star and one to the person who pulls the arrows out of his back after news conferences. He does a terrific job and I wouldn't want his on a bet. We both pray for you and your wonderful family and wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

Gale Thomas

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Bernie Polikowsky [P6/b(6)]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2005 12:06 AM

To: Public Comments

Subject: Speech

Dear President Bush,

You did a good job on the speech to the nation Sunday. I am glad that you are on the offense with these speeches. I also think you did the right thing taking on Sadam. Usually it is easier to do nothing, but sometimes you have to take a chance and do what you think is right. As you know, history will make the final determination. However, I think that freedom will always eventually rule.

As many have said, the American people have very little patience for anything, but our enemies seem to have unlimited patience. Although I am not the one making the sacrifices, I believe that we need to give this thing a chance. What does it say to the world if we are so eager to give up?

So, although I know the closest that you will come to actually reading this will be the fraction of a percentage point that this registers in the response numbers that your staff compiles. But, that is OK. It will be fine for me to know that this e-mail makes a tally in the column of those Americans who support you and feel that you are doing a good job as president.

Respectfully,

Bernie Polikowsky

---

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around <http://mail.yahoo.com>

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Ashley Phillips [P6/b(6)]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2005 2:02 AM

To: Public Comments

Cc: sf.nancy@mail.house.gov

Subject: your speech tonight

Mr. Bush:

I saw your speech tonight. I was thoroughly dissappointed. Yes, you did finally accept responsibility for many of the wrongs that have led to the deaths of over 2,000 of our most honored citizens of our country, those who have committed their lives to protect America. But it is simply not enough.

These people who are among the most brave, the most courageous among Americans, should not have ever fought in this very wrong war, no matter how you try to explain it. The American people now understand just how wrong this war is, but we will continue to stand aside our troops there. For you to use our patriotic sensibilities for your own political gain is shameful.

Yes, you must now finish the job there, since that is the only way out. But you know as much as me and the many millions of Americans that we shouldn't have ever been there in the first place. Please bring our troops home as soon as possible.

Mr. Bush, I don't feel anymore safe than before 9/11. In fact I feel more vulnerable living near several sea ports. Your advisors, including the obviously formidable VP Cheney, have led you down the wrong path. Instead of investing in home security, you have chosen to wage this war. Yes, Saddam Hussein was a bad person, but it seems that there are many more worse leaders, who are much smarter than Saddam in the world, that poses much more threat to America.

You have weakened our national security as obviously discovered in the aftermath of Katrina. What more evidence do you need to see that this war is wrong? When will you come to the realization that you are supposed to represent all Americans?

Sincerely,

Ashley Phillips

P6/b(6)

---

-----Original Message-----

From: P6/b(6)

Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2005 11:47 PM

To: Public Comments

Subject: President Bush Speech 12-18-05

Dear President Bush:

As we listened to your speech tonight we found it neither convincing nor reasonable. It is our opinion that the war in Iraq was a poor decision from the beginning. A preemptive, unilateral war does not reflect our identity or character as a people or a nation. It was neither a "just war": or a necessary one.

The first-person, "I" seemed to permeate your speech with respect to troop withdrawal and the notion of victory in Iraq. For some reason, I thought "we the people" had something to do with the decision-making process. We support our military for faithfully and courageously serving, but feel the policies of your Administration with respect to the Iraqi conflict have been a grave and costly error in terms of lives lost and changed and with respect to the negative effects on our economy. We believe there were other options which would have achieved the same outcomes with much less cost. When do we bring our troops home from Iraq? When do we declare victory? It seems a rather arbitrary decision, because the "war on terrorism" is a vague and arbitrary concept. When do we admit when we made a mistake and begin the process of healing?

Respectfully, Tom and Beth Hansen

---

-----Original Message-----

From: RANDY PETERS P6/b(6)

Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2005 9:40 PM

To: Public Comments

Subject: TELEVISED SPEECH

Dear Mr President,

I just saw you on the news and watch part of your speech, as i saw right though your technique to SIDE TRACK the American people again away from the real issues.

and they as follows:

- 1) MISTAKE IN GETTING US INTO IRAQ
- 2) STATUS OF AMERICAN ECONOMY
- 3) YOU GOT CAUGHT SPYING ON AMERICANS WITHOUT COURT'S PERMISSION
- 4) THE LATEST POLL SHOW YOUR POPULARITY THE LOWEST EVER FOR ANY SITTING PRESIDENT.

Shall i go on Mr president? I think not, i must admit i did not vote for you or any president since RONALD REGAN...Now that was a president who knew how to control people and use style to do things and come out smelling like a rose!!!

SINCERELY,

RANDY L PETERS

US CITIZEN// VETERAN

---

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around <http://mail.yahoo.com>